

WHAT! NOVELS BY THE POUND?

Continued from First Page

winter from Narvik. There will be three steamers of 5,000 tons each and Philadelphia will be the principal American port. The Swedish Government is backing the new company.

The agitation in favor of cotton growing in certain British colonies seems to be taking a more definite shape. An agreement has just been concluded between the British Cotton Growing Association and the British South Africa Company affecting the development of cotton growing in northern Rhodesia.

White planters who have tried cotton growing there have in the main had little to show for their efforts. Now it is proposed to establish a training farm of 200 acres somewhere along the railroad between Livingstone and Broken Hill in charge of an expert to advise farmers how to select and till the land. What little cotton has been produced in Rhodesia is said to be of a shabby quality and has generally brought about 4 cents a pound more than the middling American grade.

In the Cape Colony too a movement is on foot for the encouragement of cotton growing along the coast line in the border district of the Karroo.

Officialism and red tape have long been a byword in Germany, but the following instance is beyond imagination, moreover it is a matter of recent official record.

On December 23 last Dr. Koepin, professor at the University of Bonn, was killed in a railway accident. The provincial authorities have now sent in a claim to Frau Koepin, the widow, demanding \$2 expended at the time of the accident on removing the blood stains from the railway premises. The authorities inform Frau Koepin that if she does not pay she will be proceeded against.

The Kaiser stirred up a hornet's nest when he took to lecturing the women of his country on the duties they ought to perform in life. His Königsberg speech has provided the suffragists with powder and shot. The Kaiser is accused of having revived antiquated notions which would not be accepted now by the exemplary woman he cited, Queen Louise, were she living to-day.

How would the industrial interests of Germany fare if they were not supported by nine millions of working women, ask the feminist leaders. Some newspapers which ignored the suffragist movement before the Kaiser delivered his speech are now supporting the women's protest.

The number of avowed suffragettes in the Fatherland is increasing. They are appealing to the independent political parties to show their disapproval of the speech by refusing to support the new budget.

The new Young Turk Government has found out some very remarkable things in its work of reformation. One of them is that there are far more Turks than are accounted for in the official statistics.

The latest reference books, which are based on Turkish official figures, give the population of European Turkey as 6,120,000, but the census, which is now being taken indicates that these figures are far too small. The discrepancies in the country villages, especially in Albania, are amazing.

The city of Diakova, for instance, which is down for 21,000 inhabitants, now appears to have not less than 50,000, and the population of the district of Kossowa is more than twice as great as it has been given. It may be taken for certain that Turkey in Europe instead of 6,000,000 has really 10,000,000 inhabitants, or may be more.

The difference is easily explained. Taking Diakova as an example, the corrupt old Governors only paid into the Imperial treasury the taxes on 21,000 people, the number, they certified, as "official" and they coolly pocketed the taxes on the remaining 60,000. This sort of graft went on under Abdul Hamid for years and incidentally explains Turkey's everlasting financial troubles. The next Ottoman budget may be a surprise to the world at large.

A fallen star was Francesco Poggi, a street sweeper, who died suddenly in Trieste, Austria, from heart disease while wielding a broom on the steps of the Stock Exchange.

At one time Poggi gained renown as a haryone and was a member of the Scala Opera House in Milan. He went to America and made much money. But he spent the money as fast as he got it and in a few years he was penniless and friendless. He then lost his voice and went under. He was only 35.

Gen. Booth's state of health, which has been much discussed of late, is sufficiently satisfactory to allow arrangements to be made for a German physician to lecture four times a week which he will undertake later in the autumn. He will probably be returning to England to visit Denmark, where his youngest daughter is territorial commandant of the Salvation Army.

As regards his eyes, while the sight of one is entirely gone that of the other is blurred by a cataract to such an extent that Gen. Booth cannot recognize his most intimate friends even at close quarters. At most he perceives them in vague outlines. Still on occasion he manages to write a few lines in a large hand where he has some special interest in doing so. Otherwise he dictates everything. Apart from this he is in excellent spirits and his bodily and mental vigor continues to be remarkable for a man of his years. He will be 82 next spring.

An important series of instructions is now being issued by the Government of St. Petersburg and is directed toward shortening the great delays and cost in the methods of the leading industries in Russia. The South Russian coal syndicate, Prudogol, which is controlled by international capitalists and has hitherto had its headquarters in Paris, has been directed to bring its administration to St. Petersburg. The syndicate has no option but to obey, as its chief customers are departments of the Russian Government.

Another instruction issued to the committee of three which is entrusted with the overseeing of Russia's navy yards and marine organization is to inquire into the chronic delays at those works where Government departments are the greatest shareholders. These include the Potoff steel plate works, the Orskhoff cannon foundry and the Jura small arms factory. Successive army and navy administrations have brought up most of the shares in these concerns, which have, however, retained their boards of directors as if they were independent industrial companies.

The committee is asked to formulate a

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Carina, suffered from at the time he was born.

The sinister side of life in the Temple in London has lately been revealed in a topic of the hour by a case of suicide in some chambers looking down on the peaceful resting place of Oliver Goldsmith. But every imaginative visitor who spends a few nights within the precincts of that lonely refuge from the hubbub of Fleet street must be impressed by it.

The sense of peacefulness is there, but added to it that of remoteness and loneliness. From the time the wicket in the great door is opened by the porter and slammed behind you the feeling of being cut off from the busy world outside grows and grows until it becomes positively oppressive. The silence of the empty courts is only broken by the weird rustling of the plane trees and the echo of your footsteps as you traverse the erstwhile busy ways.

Regiments of unholo cats, mostly black, as becoms the locality, slink round corners in narrow passages that seem specially made for their furtive ways. Who knows what may come round that crazy corner at Lamb's Building? Who knows what has come round it? On the thin strip of green churchyard beside the ancient church you can see a few mediæval graves, lying long and narrow, reminiscent of the early Templars.

When a person is weary and tired this ancient place, with its secrets, its inscrutable face and the loneliness and mystery of the hidden life around you, can be very sinister. The story told at the inquest upon the friendly man found shot through the heart in his Pump Court chambers might have had any place for its setting, but somehow it seems more significant in a Temple court.

Visitors to the various capitals and beauty spots of Europe during the season now on the wane will not be surprised to learn that Americans have overtaken the English as the champion tourists of Europe. For some years past it has been obvious that Americans were rapidly supplanting the English as the foremost globe trotters, but never before this year has that predominance been so apparent.

The official per list in Berlin shows that during the last summer the number of American visitors was four times greater than the number of English visitors. At Wiesbaden, at Kissingen and at Bad Nauheim the same preponderance was apparent. At Oberammergau ten times as many Americans as English have witnessed the Passion Play. At Garmisch the Americans outnumbered the English twelve to one, and at Marienbad the proportion was similar.

And the Teuton is more than satisfied with the situation. The hotels and shops do not conceal the fact that their American customers are more welcome than the Britishers. All those interested in what the Germans call the tourist industry agree that the average American traveler spends four times as much as the average English traveler. Whereas the hotel keepers and shop keepers formerly catered for the exclusive lord from England they now lay themselves out to please the American citizen. In this way Americans are now supreme on the

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Continent throughout the summer.

The death of Lanier Sampson, of Poughkeepsie, has emphasized the fact that for the moment since the retirement of Sir John Tenniel the form of the cartoon seems to have been lost. Take, for example, Mr. Partridge. He is an artist of undoubted gifts, but the cartoon is not his métier. He can never conserve the point of his design, but fritters it away on the details. His is always an illustration to the last button or the last fold of the trousers, and the model and the photograph are forever obtruding themselves.

Of Raven Hill it is yet too early to speak, no one can foretell the future of talent so flexible and so abounding, but it is to be regretted that a real rival to Leech and Keene should abandon a field in which he is master for one in which he has yet to prove his qualifications. Nor is the British public ready for the artist's "Simplicissimus" or "L'Esquise au Bourre". The brutality of the first, with all its imagination and beauty of design, and the rancor and bitterness of the second would disgust without amusing the British householder, who wants his cartoons to be appreciated in the nursery as well as in the parlor. Nevertheless it would be well for British native art if the technical methods of these extraordinarily clever French and German artists were more closely studied and followed in England.

Elaborate preparations are being made for the colonial tour of the Duke of Connaught and his family. The Balmoral Castle, the newest and finest of the boats that run to South Africa, is being almost refitted and a special suite of apartments is being arranged for the royalties, partitions having been removed so that the state rooms can be enlarged and private breakfast and lunch the Duke and his family will take in privacy, but at dinner they will be joined by some of the naval officers.

There will be a special naval band on board, besides the ordinary ship band, so every evening concert will be given. In view of the royal mourning there will be no other gaieties, such as the dances and fetes which usually enliven the long trip.

Both the Balmoral Castle and the escorting cruiser are equipped with wireless outfits and the Duke will keep in constant touch with King George. The Duke will take out with him many messages from the King addressed to persons with whom King George has come in contact, and he will also confer various distinctions in the King's name in the course of his State progress throughout the Union. He is carrying with him a supply of personal souvenirs; some are articles of jewelry, which belonged to King Edward and which

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